

was still unsatisfied, and the correspondence ceased. It seemed devoid of results at the time, but in years to come it formed the basis of a lasting reconciliation.

Before the Presidential election, the constitutional amendment changing the method of voting for President and Vice-President, had been adopted by every State. Under its workings Jefferson and Clinton received 162 electoral votes and Pinckney and King only 14.

The event of the session of the Congress that met in November was the impeachment trial of Justice Chase. In February, 1805, the case was opened in the Senate Chamber by the managers from the House. From the beginning the Republican prosecution had recognized that they had attempted too much. They themselves were uncertain in their views of what an impeachment meant, and even the charges embraced no offense known to the statute books or to the common law. The array of counsel for the defendant far outweighed that of the prosecution in talents and legal learning. As in the trial of Pickering, so now, the form in which the Senate should put its final judgment was of vital importance. The Senate agreed that it should answer the question, "Is Samuel Chase guilty or not guilty of a high crime or misdemeanor as charged in the article just read?" When they came to a vote, the Senate acquitted the defendant on every charge, nearly one-fourth of the Republican Senators voting in the negative. John Randolph was deeply chagrined at the result. Jefferson had held himself aloof from the trial, and his correspondence does not show that he was in the least irritated or disappointed by the acquittal. His indifference cut

Randolph, whose heart was set upon a conviction, to the quick, and from the trial of Chase may be dated the beginning of the fierce and dramatic opposition which Randolph led against the President.

THE SECOND ADMINISTRATION.

On March 4th, 1805, Jefferson for the second time took the oath of office as President of the United States. His inaugural was